

GULF DEFENDER



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Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. *Gulf Defender*

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In brief

Comptroller Squadron closing early

The 325th Comptroller Squadron will close today at 3 p.m. for an official function. In case of emergency, contact Senior Master Sgt. Raymond Graber at 624-9466.

AADD

Airmen Against Drunk Driving are offering airmen between E-1 and E-4 a chance to volunteer in support of the program. Volunteer days are Fridays and Saturdays from 5 p.m. to 5 a.m. To volunteer, or for more information call, 283-4253.

Colonel Selections

Two Team Tyndall lieutenant colonels recently learned of their selections to the rank of colonel. To find out who they are, see page 6.



Inside

● Thunderbird's accident report release ... **Page 6**

● New war communication too ... **Page 11**

● Tips for safe jogging ... **Page 13**



Lisa Carroll

American Hornets bring home third Raptor

"Raptor 20," Tyndall's third F/A-22 (right), piloted by Maj. Michael Hoepfner, 43rd Fighter Squadron, turns to land during its delivery here Wednesday. Escorting Raptor 20 is a 95th Fighter Squadron F-15 Eagle piloted by Lt. Col. Jeffrey Harrigan, 43rd FS commander.

America rising to tasks of history: Bush says in State of Union Address

JIM GARAMONE

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON -The United States has not come through tragedy, trial and war to falter. Americans are proving the state of the union is strong, and they "are rising to the tasks of history," President George Bush said in the State of the Union address tonight.

President Bush, speaking to both bodies of Congress at the U.S. Capitol, said the government's greatest responsibility is the active defense of the American people. He said that in the 28 months since the attacks of Sept. 11, there are many who believe the danger is passed.

"That hope is understandable, comforting – and false," he said. "The killing has continued in Bali,

Jakarta, Casablanca, Riyadh, Mombassa, Jerusalem, Istanbul and Baghdad. The terrorists continue to plot against America and the civilized world. And by our will and courage, this danger will be defeated."

Hundreds of thousands of American servicemen and women are deployed across the world in the war on terror, the president noted, and their efforts make America more secure. Law enforcement and intelligence officials are examining threats and "their vigilance is protecting America."

President Bush said America faces a choice: "We can go forward with confidence and resolve, or we can turn back to the dangerous illusion that terrorists are not plotting and outlaw regimes are no threat to

us."

President Bush said the American military is leading the fight on terror. Service members have now captured or killed two-thirds of the known al Qaeda leaders.

"Thousands of very skilled and determined military personnel are on a manhunt, going after the remaining killers who hide in cities and caves," the president said. "And, one by one, we will bring the terrorists to justice."

The United States is also determined to take action against regimes that harbor terrorists or could supply terror groups with weapons of mass destruction, President Bush said. "The first to see our determination were the Taliban, who made Afghanistan the primary training

base of al Qaeda killers."

Afghanistan has now agreed to a new constitution, guaranteeing free elections and full participation by women, and with help from the new Afghan National Army, the U.S.-led coalition is operating against surviving members of the Taliban and al Qaeda.

"The men and women of Afghanistan are building a nation that is free and proud and fighting terror – and America is honored to be their friend," President Bush said.

In Iraq there is a similar litany of success. The regime of Saddam Hussein is overthrown and U.S. soldiers captured him hiding in a hole in the ground.

"Having broken the Baathist

●SEE ADDRESS PAGE 5

Training the best air dominance team for America

Safety critical to Team Tyndall success

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW
325th Fighter Wing commander



Welcome back. I hope everyone had an enjoyable weekend. You may have noticed that there have been many changes to the traffic patterns around Tyndall. In addition, some of the posted speed limits have changed. That said, I want to remind folks to exercise caution while driving on base. This is especially critical on Beacon Beach Road, near the crosswalks between the Air Control Squadron buildings.

The speed limit near the ACS buildings is 30 mph, and just past the buildings the speed limit was reduced from

45 mph to 35 mph. Although new signs have been posted indicating the presence of crosswalks near the buildings, between 7 – 7:30 a.m., the peak traffic time for folks entering the base, the sun makes the road even more dangerous. Visibility is drastically reduced and often motorists cannot see the signs, crosswalks or folks entering them until the last second.

Safety is one of our highest priorities, and it is critical to our success. Taking care of our people is something Team Tyndall has done, and continues to do, well. I'm sure everyone will step up to the plate and ensure the safety of one another.

Speaking of taking care of Team Tyndall folks, once again, the base legal office is getting ready to open the doors of the Tax Assistance



“Taking care of our people is something Team Tyndall has done, and continues to do, well.”

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW
325th Fighter Wing commander

Center. Tax assistance will be available beginning Feb. 2 at the Community Activities Center. The folks from the base legal office provide this valuable service free of charge to Team Tyndall men and women, which provides huge savings versus having to go off base to have taxes prepared. In fact, last year, the tax center saved Team Tyndall members more than \$200,000.

Folks wishing to utilize the tax center's services can make an appointment, talk to

their unit's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance representative, or simply stop by the CAC. W-2s for active duty, Reserve, Guard and civil service folks who have a myPay account password can access their W-2 via the myPay Web site at mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx.

Also, the base finance office can assist those who are having problems with the site and can print a hard copy of your W-2.

Although April 15 is still months away, the deadline al-

ways manages to sneak up on some and I encourage everyone to take advantage of the tax center's services and prepare their income taxes as early as possible.

While I'm on the topic of preparation, Team Tyndall will be primarily supporting two Air Expeditionary Force deployment cycles this year, AEFs 3/4 and 9/10. I want to remind folks who are in the window to deploy with these AEFs to make sure they are ready to go now. To achieve this goal, we need to ensure our folks are ready to go at a moment's notice and will be able to hit the ground running once they deploy. What this means to folks in the target groups is to ensure deployment checklists are current and complete, and personal needs are met before the order is given to deploy.

Although the Air Force is attempting to return to a normal 90-day AEF rotation cycle, there is always the chance of deploying for up to 180 days. To that end, folks need to incorporate flexibility into their deployment plans. Although AEF 9/10 isn't scheduled to depart until early this summer, folks should be prepared to deploy earlier as the need may arise. Team Tyndall has done a fantastic job supporting the global war on terror. I am confident this year's rotations will be no different, and I commend you for your efforts and hard work.

Finally, Team Tyndall will be hosting a visit by Air Force Secretary James Roche next week. I'm sure that he will be impressed, not only with Tyndall itself, but the men and women who keep it running. Keep up the good work and I'll see all of you next week.

Colonel speaks of living the dream today

COL. JIMMY McMILLIAN
91st Security Forces Group commander

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D. (AFPN) — It is not my intent to recite Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s entire biography. I will not give you a guilt trip about the sins of our ancestors, and I will not pretend we have achieved the vision of Dr. King. While I would agree we as a nation have made tremendous strides in race relations, there is still much more we can do to fulfill the legacy of Dr. King. I will not recite the "I had a dream" speech, although I believe it is relevant today.

If I were charged with giving the

holiday celebrated this year on Jan. 19 a theme, it would be "Living the dream today." Some may believe the dream has been fulfilled, others may believe the dream will never be realized. Whatever your position, we should all share one common theme, and that is, to live the dream. This requires a sincere collective effort to always do what is right for mankind, not self.

Here's what I think it means to "live the dream."

In 1968, when Dr. King was assassinated, I was about nine years old. I vividly recall watching the funeral on the 15-inch black and white

television in our home. All the adults in my household were filled with emotions. I listened to Dr. King's speeches on the radio, but I did not realize how much he had changed the course of history until after his death. I then set out to learn as much as I could about this man, because his unique oratory skills motivated me to change my outlook on life.

Often, people are products of non-productive environments, seeming to endure disappointment after disappointment. They walk around wondering if life will ever be kind to them. Then doubt begins to control their thoughts, and there is a natural ten-

dency to give-up, give-in and quit.

Living the dream does not give you the option to quit. When you consider what Dr. King endured, quitting does not allow you to assume responsibility for your own freedoms; giving up robs you of your future, and it denies freedom to the neighborhoods and nation in which we live.

Dr. King's life should give each of us courage to do what is right, the strength to overcome life's obstacles, and the energy to initiate new beginnings. No one ever promised a life without pain or sorrow, but there is always hope in the midst of chaos.

When you are suffering from fail-

ures or denied opportunities, there are two ways you can respond to your situation. One is to react with bitterness and blame everyone. The other is to transform the suffering into a creative force. I decided long ago to follow the latter course, because when situations knock me on my back, I'm reminded of a quote from abolitionist and author Frederick Douglass, which says, "If you can look up, you can get up."

Another aspect of living the dream means you must give back. We all must make a commitment to the

●SEE DREAM PAGE 3

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The deadline for article submissions to the *Gulf Defender* is 4 p.m. Friday, prior to the week of publication unless otherwise noted. Articles must be typed and double-spaced, preferably on a 3.5-inch disc. Stories should be submitted directly to the public affairs office, Building 662, Room 129 or mailed to: 325 FW/PAI, 445 Suwannee Ave., Tyndall AFB, FL, 32403-5425 or emailed to editor@tyndall.af.mil. Public affairs staff members edit all material for accuracy, brevity, clarity, conformity to regulations and journalistic style. The delivery of the *Gulf Defender* to Tyndall base housing sections is provided by the *Panama City News Herald*.

For more information, or to advertise in the newspaper, call (850) 747-5000.

● FROM DREAM PAGE 2

African proverb, "each one, teach one." I challenge you to mentor someone who does not look like you, and spend some time mentoring or tutoring young people who are from dysfunctional homes or situations. I guarantee you, there are people in our midst who need a positive role model they can dialogue with on a regular basis regardless of age, experience or social status. Living the dream requires us to seek those people out.

Living the dream means working to understand and appreciate the differences in others. I have decided that understanding another person is one of the most difficult things for man to do. Understanding another human demands a degree of energy most of us cannot muster. Trying to understand someone requires you to approach the table of humanity devoid of all preconceived notions and ideas about that person. We have to strip ourselves of the media's depiction of another race, look for the positive in people, and

judge them by their actions and morality, not the color of their skin. You have achieved some understanding of another being when you don't undermine your worth by comparing yourself with others. It is because we are different that each of us is special.

Living the dream means in-

"Today is a gift; that's why we call it the present — enjoy it in appreciation of each other."

COL. JIMMY McMILLIAN
91st Security Force
Group commander

dividuals must rise above the "narrow concepts of individualized concerns, to the broader concerns of humanity." If we all make a sincere effort to work harder every month in our communities to combat prejudices and discriminations, it will give us the opportunity to make a significant difference in the world. The tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001,

forced us to hold hands and mourn as one nation. To me, this proves you cannot make someone love you, but we all can be someone to be loved.

Living the dream also suggests you must see yourself at the head and never at the tail. Some people will always want you to feel inferior and come in last place. Your focus must remain on bettering yourself, because a person's capacity to better his or her self provides inspiration and confidence in the future of the human race. When the human race is on the same accord, then all people benefit from the abundance of our great nation.

I challenge you to live the dream each day as though it is your last day. Remember, yesterday is history, let's not forget it, but don't be shackled by it. Tomorrow is a mystery, therefore prepare for it, but don't worry about the trials it will bring. And today is a gift; that's why we call it the present — enjoy it in appreciation of each other.

Checkertail Salute



Steve Wallace

Tech. Sgt. Todd Cook is awarded the Checkertail Salute Warrior of the Week award by Brig. Gen. Larry New, 325th Fighter Wing commander.

The Checkertail Clan salutes Tech. Sgt. Todd Cook, who has had several accomplishments across the operations spectrum. Sergeant Cook has revamped and created the Squadron Upgrade Continuity Book, energized squadron mobility deployment folders and reconfirmed mobility kits to ensure a 100 percent compliance with Federal Acquisition Regulations. Sergeant Cook has also reviewed the squadron's training records, and has made himself flexible on a daily basis for squadron needs, even during deployment. He is part of the Member Disaster Control Group, Exercise Evaluation Team, and is the unit deployment and training manager for military and civilian personnel.

Tech. Sgt. Todd Cook

Duty title: NCOIC, contingency contracting

Unit: 325th Contracting Squadron

Time on Tyndall: 6.6 years

Time in service: 19.5 years

Hometown: Orange, Va.

Hobbies: Fishing, construction and the Elks Lodge

Career Goals: To complete my bachelor's degree and achieve the rank of master sergeant

Favorite movie: American Wedding

Proudest moment in the military: Returning from service after Operation Desert Storm and being welcomed by more than 3,000 Eglin Air Force Base personnel.

The Checkertail Salute is a 325th Fighter Wing commander program designed to recognize Tyndall's Warrior of the Week. Supervisors can nominate individuals via their squadron and group commanders. Award recipients receive a certificate, letter from the commander and a one-day pass.

Not all prepaid phone cards offer value

MASTER SGT. MICHAEL BRIGGS
Air Education and Training Command News Service

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AETCNS) — An airman deployed to Baghdad uses a 60-minute prepaid phone card to call home and, after being charged connection fees, has only two minutes left on the card to talk.

As improbable as that may sound, reports from United States Central Command indicate deployed military members have experienced this and other difficulties when using prepaid phone cards in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom theaters, according to a recent Army and Air Force Exchange Service press release.

Because of this, AAFES officials want to inform service members and their families about international telephone service and the benefits of AAFES global prepaid phone cards.

Prepaid phone cards allow people to pay in advance for telephone calls. Depending on how much the card costs, people receive a specific number of minutes of calling time. As they use the card, the minutes are reduced until they have used up all the time on the card.

Military members and their families should be reassured to know phone cards purchased at AAFES post exchanges, base exchanges, tactical field exchanges and Imprest Fund sites, which are unit-run exchanges, are not subject to connection fees or other hidden charges, officials said.

The abundance and variety of phone options available can be very confusing. Many prepaid phone cards sold in the United

States are designed for use only within the 48 contiguous states. AAFES prepaid phone cards, on the other hand, are designed for use on a global platform, which “is tailored to the unique needs of mobile service members,” said Fred Bluhm, an AAFES spokesperson.

Before they buy a phone card, Mr. Bluhm cautions people to “read the fine print.”

Things to know:



- People who are the victim of fraud while using a prepaid phone card should first talk to the company.
- An industry association, the International Prepaid Communications Association, operates a toll-free hotline at (800) 333-3513 for customers who have problems with or questions about prepaid phone cards.
- People can also get information on the Web from IPCA at www.i-pca.org or from Consumer Action at www.consumer-action.org.

Many domestic or per-minute phone cards contain the phrase “International flat rates vary.” While non-AAFES cards may look like a bargain, they can actually be more expensive to use. For example, service members who use the AAFES prepaid card compared to other available prepaid cards receive three times as many minutes for calls placed from Kuwait to the United States. This equals a cost of 19 cents per minute less than a typical phone card.

In some cases, phone card companies

commit fraud. Since start-up costs are low for prepaid phone card companies, many small firms, some disreputable, have been able to enter the market, according to Consumer Action, a consumer education and advocacy organization. In some cases, companies have taken customers’ money and left them with worthless cards.

Some card providers fail to tell consumers about fees, surcharges and other costs, or hide them in small, hard-to-read print, according to Consumer Action.

People who are the victim of fraud while using a prepaid phone card should first talk to the company. An industry association, the International Prepaid Communications Association, operates a toll-free hotline at (800) 333-3513 for customers who have problems with or questions about prepaid phone cards. People can also get information on the Web from IPCA at www.i-pca.org or from Consumer Action at www.consumer-action.org.

“All phone cards are not created equal,” Mr. Bluhm said. “It is important to let the troops and their loved ones know that cards from home may be subject to unforeseen charges.”

AAFES prepaid phone cards are available, worldwide, at any AAFES retail location, through the AAFES catalog or at www.aafes.com. AAFES prepaid phone cards are welcome at any of the 30 call centers AAFES operates in the OIF and OEF theaters. AAFES currently has five call centers in Iraq, eight in Afghanistan and 19 in Kuwait.

Blood drive results

Once again, during a critical shortage of blood, Tyndall came through for the Red Cross.

The goal was 72 units. Tyndall had 122 presenting donors, and from that 102 were productive units to be used. Tyndall’s blood drive was the most successful for Jan. 15 in the entire region. The region is from Mobile, Ala. to Tallahassee, Fla. and north to Montgomery, Ala.

The Top Dog Award goes to HQ Air Force Civil Engineers Support Agency with 17 presenting donors.

The 325th Communications Squadron provided 15 donors.

The 325th Air Control Squadron had 13 donors.

The 81st Test Support Squadron earned honorable mention honors with 10 donors and four volunteers.

The next Blood Drive will be March 25 and will be hosted by NorthWest Blood Center.

The projected dates for the rest of the year are:

- May 20 Red Cross
- July 15 NorthWest
- Sept. 24 Red Cross
- Nov. 6 NorthWest

For more information, call Tyndall Blood Drive Coordinator at 283-6218.

MASTER SGT.
JEFFREY KAHAPEA
325th Fighter Wing
career assistance advisor

Many of you already know that first term airmen enter their career’s retraining window in the 35th month of a 4-year enlistment, and remain in that window until the 43rd month. Although there is never a guarantee of retraining approval, there is a definite strategy involved to increase chance for selection.

Factors used by the board to make selections include enlisted performance report, grade, date of rank, total active federal military service date. Retraining quotas are divided equally over a 12-month period. Determine when the best time would be to apply, and do well currently, as this directly affects most of the selection factors, and in-turn, chance for selection.

Career Assistance
For more information about career development issues, ask your supervisor, or contact the Career Assistance office in Bldg. 622, 283-2222.

● **FROM ADDRESS PAGE 1**

regime, we face a remnant of violent Saddam supporters,” the president said. “These killers, joined by foreign terrorists, are a serious, continuing danger. Yet we are making progress against them.”

Coalition forces have captured or killed 45 of the 55 most-wanted former regime members. “Our forces are on the offensive, leading over 1,600 patrols a day, and conducting an average of 180 raids every week,” he said. “We are dealing with these thugs in Iraq, just as surely as we dealt with Saddam Hussein’s evil regime.”

President Bush said that building a new Iraq will be hard, but it is worth the effort. In June, the coalition will transition to full Iraqi sovereignty. He vowed that the United States will stand by Iraq as it makes the transition to democracy.

There have been other positive consequences of America’s resolve to win the war on terror, President Bush pointed out. In December, Libyan leader Moammar Qadhafi voluntarily pledged to disclose and dismantle all of his regime’s weapons of mass destruction programs, including a uranium-enrichment project for nuclear weapons.

“Nine months of intense negotiations involving the United States and Great Britain succeeded with Libya, while 12 years of diplomacy with Iraq did not,” President Bush said. “And one reason is clear: For diplomacy to be effective, words must be credible – and no one can now doubt the word of America.”

But different threats require different strategies. The United States is working with nations of the region to get North Korea to dismantle its nuclear program and stop proliferating

“**F**or all who love freedom and peace, the world without Saddam Hussein’s regime is a better and safer place.”

GEORGE BUSH
President of the United States

missile technology. The international community is demanding Iran meet its commitments and not develop nuclear weapons. “America is committed to keeping the world’s most dangerous weapons out of the hands of the world’s most dangerous regimes,” the president said.

He reminded Congress and the American people that the nation is really at war. He said many people view terrorism more as a crime, a problem to be solved mainly with law enforcement and indictments.

“After the World Trade Center was first attacked in 1993, some of the guilty were indicted, tried, convicted and sent to prison,” he said. “But the matter was not settled. The terrorists were still training and plotting in other nations and drawing up more ambitious plans.

“After the chaos and carnage of Sept. 11, it is not enough to serve our enemies with legal papers,” he continued. “The terrorists and their supporters declared war on the United States — and war is what they got.”

He said that many in America did not agree with the war to rid Iraq of Saddam Hussein. But what has been revealed since coalition forces took Baghdad say it was the right thing to do, he emphasized.

The first report of the Iraqi Survey Group, chaired by David Kay, identified dozens of weapons of mass destruction-related program activities and significant amounts of equipment that Iraq concealed from the United Nations. “Had we failed to act, the dictator’s weapons of mass destruction programs would continue to this day,” President Bush said.

Team Tyndall Colonel Selects

Matthew Donovan
325th Operations Group

Madeline Lopez
325th Maintenance Group

AF Colonel promotion statistics (CYO3B)
Chart reflects Air Force-wide 0-6 selection rate percentages for Line, Chaplain (Chap), Judge Advocate General (JAG), Nursing Corps (NC) and Medical Service Corps, along with Air Force overall rate

Below Zone

Line = 2.8
Chap = 0
JAG = 0
NC = 1.7
MSC = 0
AF overall = 2.6

In zone

Line = 44.7
Chap = 41.2
JAG = 58.1
NC = 31.6
MSC = 55
AF overall = 44.5

Above zone

Line = 1.7
Chap = 0
JAG = 0
NC = 5.8
MSC = 2.1
AF overall = 1.8

Hold off blue jacket logo

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Air Force clothing office officials are asking airmen to wait a few weeks before having their lightweight blue jackets embroidered with the Air Force logo.

“We’ve had an overwhelmingly positive response in regards to placing the logo on the jacket,” said Libby Glade, Air Force clothing office chief. “However, we have also received numerous questions from embroidery vendors and private individuals about the logo. We are revising the technical data to obtain an embroidery software format to ensure a high-quality, consistent appearance.”

A contractor is currently working on a digitized pattern, which will be available online at www.af.mil/airforcestory by the first week of February, Ms. Glade said. This pattern should be compatible with 90 percent of the embroidery software programs used by vendors.

“We are advising vendors and individuals to hold off on embroidering until further guidance is available,” she said.

Besides the digitized pattern, complete, updated specifications for embroidery will be available online. These specifications will include a diagram of logo placement and design elements, such as thread color and number, font style and size, stitch style and count, and spacing.

Ms. Glade said those individuals who have already had their jackets embroidered based on the current Web site logo guidelines and the previous news article are authorized to wear their embroidered jackets.

“However, we are advising that since this software will ensure conformity with the AF logo guidelines and provide uniformity across the AF, it would be best if individuals refrained from having their jackets embroidered until the software is available,” she said.

Thunderbirds accident report released

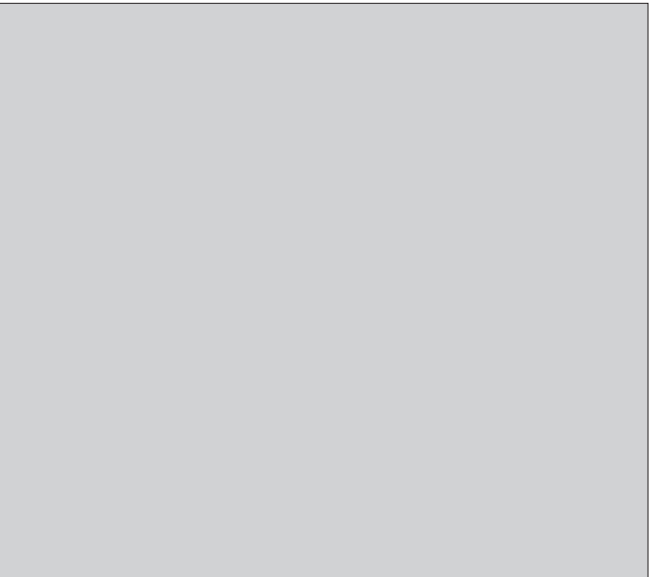
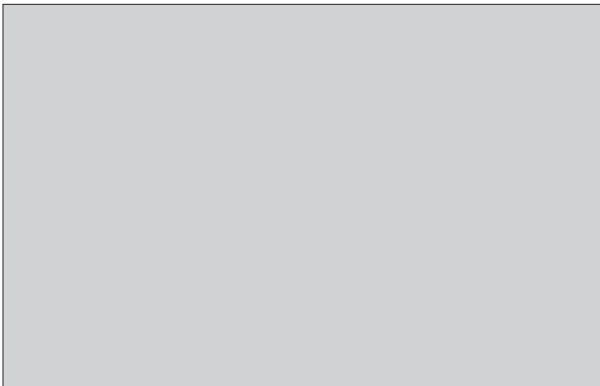
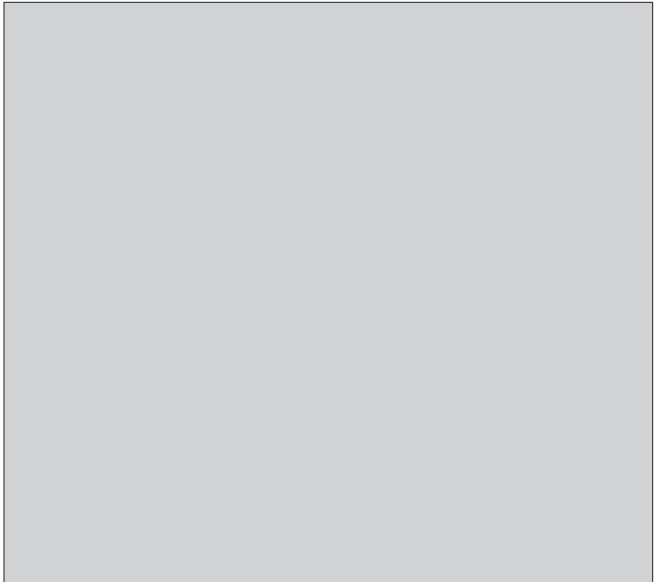
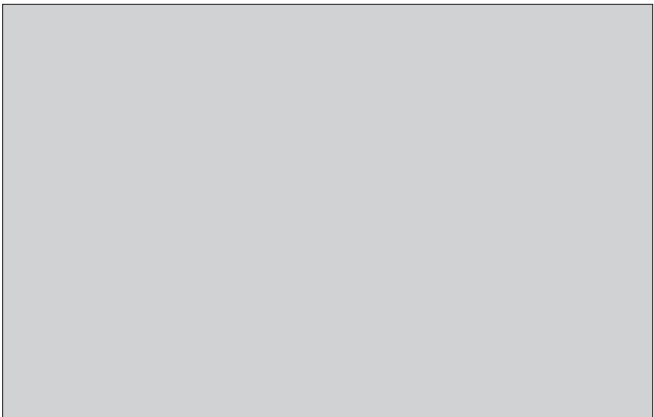
LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. (AFPN) — Pilot error caused a U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds F-16 aircraft to crash shortly after take-off at an airshow Sept. 14 at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho. The pilot ejected just before the aircraft hit the ground.

According to the accident investigation board report released Jan. 21, the pilot misinterpreted the altitude required to complete the “Split S” maneuver. He made his calculation with an incorrect airfield altitude.

The pilot incorrectly climbed to 1,670 feet above ground level instead of 2,500 feet before initiating the pull down to the Split S maneuver. When he realized something was wrong, the pilot used maximum back stick pressure and rolled slightly left to ensure the aircraft would hit away from the crowd should he have to eject. He ejected when the aircraft was 140 feet above ground — just eight-tenths of a second before impact. He sustained only minor injuries from the ejection.

The aircraft, valued at about \$20.4 million, was destroyed. There was no other damage to military or civilian property.

Also, the board determined other factors substantially contributed to creating the opportunity for the error including the requirement for demonstration pilots to convert mean sea level and above ground level altitudes, and performing a maneuver with a limited margin of error. (Courtesy of Air Combat Command News Service)



Action Line

The Action Line is your direct line to me. It is one way to make Tyndall a better place to work and live. Action Line calls are recorded and staffed through the proper agency. The goal is to provide you with an accurate, timely response. You must leave your name, phone number or address to receive a response.

Questions or comments of general interest will be published in this forum. This avenue should only be used after coordinating problems or concerns with supervisors, commanders, first sergeants or facility managers. If you're not satisfied with the response or you are unable to resolve the problem, call me at 283-2255. For fraud, waste and abuse calls, you should talk to the office of inspections, 283-4646. Calls concerning energy abuse should be referred to the energy hot line, 283-3995.

Larry D. New

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW
325th Fighter Wing commander

Veteran hiring increases

GERRY GILMORE
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Hiring of military veterans across the federal civilian work force increased in fiscal 2002, the government's director of personnel said recently.

In fact, hiring of veterans in the federal work force was up more than 19 percent over the previous fiscal year, said Kay Coles James, U.S. Office of Personnel Management director, in her agency's most recent annual report to Congress.

The employment of veterans within the federal government and in private industry is appropriate, because "the many freedoms we enjoy as a nation did not come freely," Ms. James said. "They were earned through the lives and selfless sacrifices of our veterans."

In explaining the 19.2 percent increase, the OPM report showed

47,510 veterans were hired government-wide in fiscal 2002, compared

The percentage of disabled veterans in the federal civilian work ment hired 21,657 veterans in fiscal 2002, representing 45.6 percent of all new veteran hires across the federal government that year, the report said. Non-DoD federal organizations with the highest percentages of new-veteran hires in fiscal 2002 included the Veterans Affairs Department with 23.5 percent and the Justice Department with 19.7 percent.

In OPM's fiscal 2002 congressional report, Ms. James said she was proud of federal agencies' efforts in hiring veterans.

"With our military actively engaged in the fight against terrorism, we must not falter in our commitment to the employment of these dedicated Americans," Ms. James said

"Nor can we forget that disabled veterans are heroes who have paid a price so dear that it will stay with them for the rest of their lives."

Fiscal Year 2002: Veteran hiring statistics from AFPN

- **47,510 veterans were hired government-wide in fiscal 2002, compared to 39, 874 hired the previous year.**
- **The Department of Defense hired 21,657 veterans in fiscal year 2002, representing 45.6 percent of all new veteran hires across the federal government that year.**
- **Non-DOD federal organizations with the highest percentages of veteran hires were the Veterans Affairs Department with 23.5 percent and the Justice Department with 19.7 percent.**

to 39,874 hired the year before.

About one out of 10 veterans hired in government during fiscal 2002 worked in professional occupations, the report said, while 25.8 percent of new veteran hires worked in administrative jobs and 19 percent took blue-collar jobs.

force was 4.5 percent in fiscal 2002, a drop of 0.1 percent from the previous year, the OPM report said. However, the percentage of veterans in the federal work force with 30 percent or more disability in fiscal 2002 was up 1.9 percent over the previous year.

The Defense Depart-

Family Practice

Teamwork, technology boost healthcare unit's success despite high patient load

(Editor's note: This is the first in a three-part feature series highlighting the 325th Medical Group's family practice, flight medicine and women's health clinics.)

TECH. SGT. DAN NEELY

325th Fighter Wing public affairs

For most base members – active duty, retired, family members and many others — this intensely busy location is the center of their healthcare universe. It's where patients in age from a few days old to 80 or more years typically go to visit their medical care provider and receive routine treatment for everything from minor body aches to chronic illnesses.

This hub of the medical wheel at Tyndall Air Force Base is the 325th Medical Operations Squadron's Family Practice Clinic. The roughly 40-plus member clinic is part of the squadron's medical services flight, one that also includes physical therapy, immunizations and internal medicine clinics under its wide umbrella of primary care. With a total patient pool of 18,000, one could infer that, at least for staff members, this workplace is no place for the faint of heart.

"This is one of the busiest family practices in the command," said Senior Master Sgt. Alan Cole, 325th MDOS superintendent. "We currently have seven total providers (down recently from 12), and each provider has about 1,500 patients enrolled to them."

According to Master Sgt. Elvira Simpson, NCO in charge of family practice, the family practice unit is organized into two primary care management teams – Eagle and Raptor. Each team has four subunits consisting of a provider (a doctor, physician assistant or nurse practitioner), a nurse (usually a captain or major), two enlisted aerospace medical service technicians – called med techs for short — and an

administrative technician. The providers typically care for more than 30 patients daily.

"This is definitely where the action is," Sergeant Simpson remarked.

Incoming patients first meet with an administrative technician (civilian or enlisted member), who ensures they are fully checked in, pulls their record and posts it to the member's respective provider.

The med techs screen the record for any missing or inconsistent data, ensuring that when the provider enters the treatment or examination rooms, they can avoid any potentially time-wasting disconnects. Next, they perform a variety of initial checks familiar to patients, such as weight, blood pressure and temperature. In addition to assisting providers with routine appointments, the med techs also spend many hours poring over active-duty member's Physical Health Assessment records, and ensuring Tyndall troops on worldwide deployment status are physically and administratively fit to fight.

Adding to the staff's challenges, the family practice clinic is trying to make the best of a bad situation regarding their aging appointment reservation system.

"One thing we're proactive on is the appointment process – someone picking up the phone and calling up," said Lt. Col. Charles Carlton, 325th MDOS

commander. "It's an old, antiquated system now that is probably the long pole in the tent that we're trying to fix with some modernization dollars that will hopefully be sent down from air staff or the (major command)."

In the meantime, the colonel said he



Tech. Sgt. Dan Neely

Airman 1st Class Jacob Lance, a 325th Medical Operations Squadron aerospace medical services technician, places a blood pressure cuff on a patient inside the family practice clinic.

urges patients to try to refrain from calling the appointment line during the daily peak period – 7-8 a.m., when several hundred callers may be attempting to get through.

"We will take care of patients medical needs," Colonel Carlton maintained, "but when patients call during that first hour, with only three lines coming into the appointment clerk, it's going to cause them to be on the line longer than they need to be."

Despite their challenges, the clinic

very recently added a state-of-the-art capability that has already improved care and saved many hours. In January, family practice began using their Provider Graphic User Interface, a patient information

software program.

"Basically, it has all the patient's information on one screen," explained Airman 1st Class Jacob Lance, a family practice med tech. "You can click on their medical history, medications, labs, radiology, anything like that, and it's all

available with just the click of a button.

"It's going very well," Airman Lance reported. "It saves a lot of time, because it only takes about five minutes to type (the information), and we get the patients in and out quickly."

A major quality of life and healthcare services boost is on the horizon for not only family practice, but for the entire 325th Medical Group. A new 27,000-square-foot primary care addition to the group's main facility is scheduled to open by early summer.

Sergeant Cole cited "point of access service" as a featured healthcare delivery improvement.

"With the new structure, for example, if a patient comes in for an appointment in one of the clinics,

and they (also) need immunizations, while they're here they can get them under one roof. Tyndall patients already familiar with the 325th MDG's outlying clinics, such as optometry, pediatrics and women's health, will soon enjoy a one-stop shopping type of visit, Sergeant Cole added.

"I've been through the construction area," said Sergeant Simpson. "The exam rooms are going to be a lot bigger, and I think it's going to be a lot easier for everybody."

Colonel Carlton said he hopes patients realize the group's senior leadership is being proactive in taking care of their needs.

"If there are any problems at all, we encourage our patients to contact the (group's) command staff or patient advocate at 283-7710. "A lot of these things we're doing right now are based on some of the recent issues we had that patients raised while contacting me, Colonel (Sean) Murphy or the patient advocate. The people in family practice are committed to providing the best medical care.

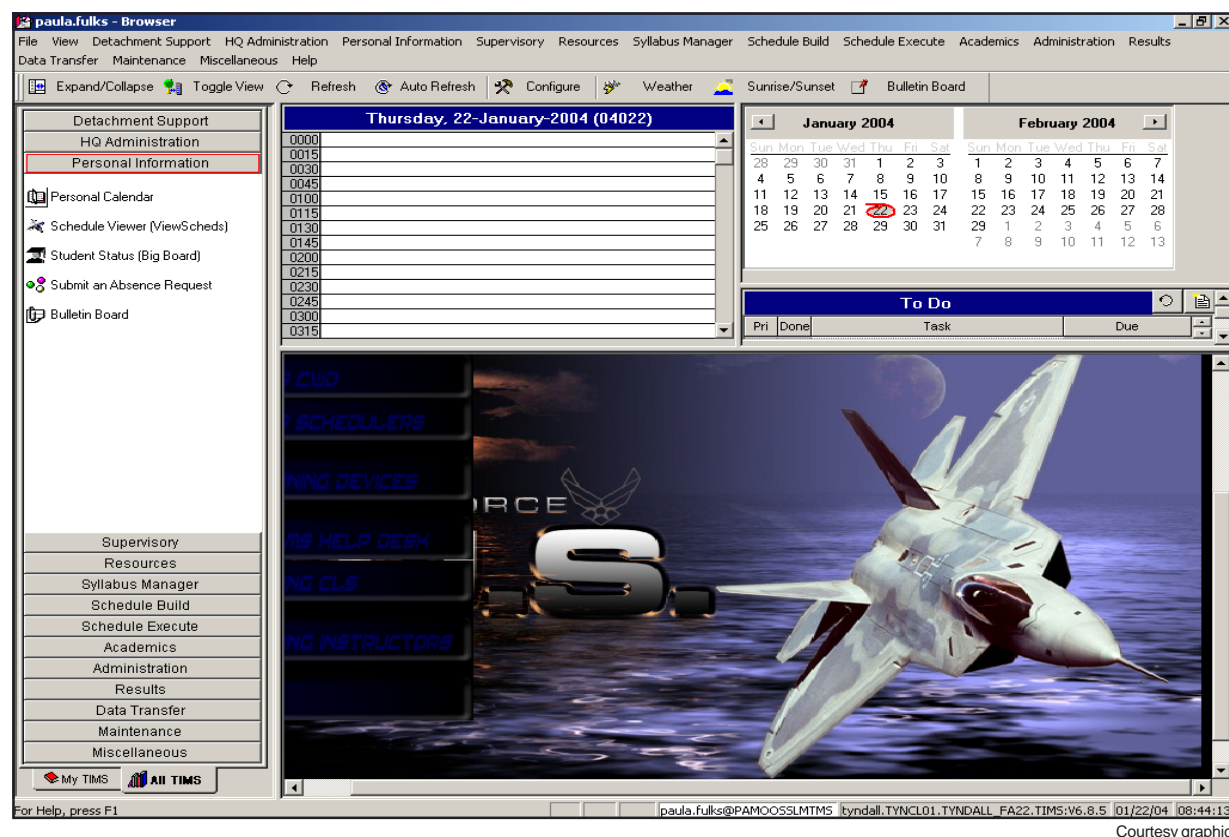
"Ninety-nine percent of the time we really do try to put ourselves in our patients' shoes," Colonel Carlton said. "We're trying to instill a philosophy that we really want to treat our Team Tyndall brothers and sisters as our own. If we do that, then we're probably hitting the mark."

Clinic information

Want to know all about the 325th Medical Group's clinics, their locations, operating hours and more? Just log on to : www.tyndall.af.mil/325MDG/325mdg.htm and click on "Patient Handbook" for a wealth of patient-related information.

43rd Fighter Squadron enters 'The Matrix'

New software program makes life easier for F/A-22 team



A screen shot of the 43rd Fighter Squadron's Combat Crew Training Management System collates data for F/A-22 student pilots to include: scheduling and academics.

CHRISTINE SULLIVAN
325th Fighter Wing public affairs

Advanced software technology has arrived at the 43rd Fighter Squadron, and it will soon benefit Team Tyndall as a whole.

At the heart of a new central data management system is a room housing two Smartboards, an active plasma display, a bank of computers, a flight scheduler and a data operator.

The software program being set up is called the Combat Crew Training Management System, which began as a joint venture between the Navy and the Air Force for undergraduate flying training and is now being adapted for central data management between the 43rd FS and other users.

The automatic tracking program checks the progress of current students, what stage of training they have completed and what is scheduled for them next. It updates the shared folder's grade book electronically, eliminating paperwork altogether.

"This system automatically tells us if a pilot needs to reschedule a flight

or a simulation training session," said Kimberly Britton, F/A-22 scheduler for Lockheed-Martin.

According to Lt. Col. Michael Stapleton, 43rd FS operations officer, it is part of a building-block approach that keeps everyone online to ensure

"I can't say enough about the team that has put together this program and this squadron – every one of them is an Air Force professional and warrior. These folks have taken on very challenging tasks without a 'how-to' guide, and the CCTMS is a crucial part of our success."

LT. COL. JEFFREY HARRIGIAN
43rd Fighter Squadron commander

critical steps are not missed. The system incorporates a client server-based infrastructure that will become the squadron's scheduling operations information hub. The goal is to eventually develop the system into a web-based format.

"Once the program is incorporated into the overall web-based plan, the

43rd FS can deploy to any spot in the world and conduct training operations," said Colonel Stapleton. "The goal is to have the ease and capability of taking the entire squadron with a couple of laptops, put them on an airplane and send them wherever they're needed."

"We're using this program as the backbone for our flying currencies, personnel and syllabus management," he added. "We're the first squadron in the Air Force to use this system for graduate flying training."

"I can't say enough about the

team that has put together this program and this squadron – every one of them is an Air Force professional and warrior," said Lt. Col. Jeffrey Harrigian, 43rd FS commander. "These folks have taken on very challenging tasks without a 'how-to' guide, and the

"All undergraduate flying training will eventually store student data electronically that will be passed on to the next training program in the pipeline," he added. "This means no further need to hand carry your grade book to your next assignment."

Ms. Britton has been working on the new system for about seven months. Because the 43rd FS is the first to test it out on the graduate level, the biggest challenge is setting up the program to run itself.

"CCTMS is working pretty well right now, and I think it's really going to benefit us," said Ms. Britton. "It's a huge improvement over the old system."

In comparison, F-15 pilots have what is called the "Puck Slam." The old central data management system uses boards that display only names and corresponding schedules, and it does not show student progress or a syllabus. Each student is assigned a piece of paper with a wiring diagram of the entire syllabus, and they must physically cross off each flight.

"The new CCTMS program makes our job a lot easier," said Ms. Britton. "And, once we've completed testing and implemented the system, and it's fully operational, the entire 325th Fighter Wing will get it sometime this year."

"Air Combat Command is also considering using CCTMS in the future, so the electronic pipeline of training information will be complete from taking an oath on the student's first day in the Air Force through the pilot's last operational mission," said Mr. Hendrickson. "It manages flying currency issues, so the record-keepers are not frustrated by lost paperwork."

As the CCTMS improves with updated versions, schedulers will continue to have their hands full incorporating changes in a timely manner.

"Folks in the scheduling office are expecting to stay five or six days ahead of a very fast-moving ball game," said Colonel Stapleton. "Operations in the future will rely on this software – we couldn't be successful without it."

CCTMS is a crucial part of our success."

"From an Air Education Training Command perspective, the goal of CCTMS is to integrate all facets of the fighter pilot training pipeline," said Marty Hendrickson, instructional systems specialist for Lockheed Martin's F-15 and F/A-22 training programs.

AAFES helping deployed troops enjoy “little comforts”

K.L. VANTRAN
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Since setting up a mobile store at Tallil Air Base, Iraq, in April, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service continues providing “a little bit of home” to deployed troops.

There are 30 exchanges in Iraq and 52 throughout operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, said Judd Anstey, AAFES public affairs specialist. Besides these stores, AAFES supports troops in isolated and hostile areas, with 80 unit-run stores and mobile operations called PX Rodeos.

AAFES recently broke ground for new stores in Mosul and at Kirkuk AB. The stores carry assortments of snacks, beverages and personal hygiene products, as well as the latest in electronics, DVDs, CDs and souvenirs, Mr. Anstey said.

AAFES also has answered the troops’ craving for fast food. Three Burger Kings and two Pizza Huts operate in Iraq, and as soon as AAFES gets a “green light” it will provide more Whoppers and personal pan pizzas, he said.

The Burger King at Baghdad International Airport, which operates out of a trailer, has become one of the top 10 Burger King restaurants in the world, he said.”

“Providing support to our troops deployed in (Southwest Asia) is the most important job we’ll ever do,” said Army Maj. Gen. Kathryn Frost, AAFES commander. “We’re determined to do whatever is necessary to bring a little bit of home to those troops willing to fight for us. Whether it’s beverages and snacks or the latest music and videos, we’ll move heaven and earth to get U.S. merchandise to our troops wherever they are.”

The general said it had been a real challenge in the last several years as U.S. forces have been sent to remote and hostile regions, but AAFES is proud it can continue its pledge to them: “We go where you go.”

“The connection to home that a PX or BX can provide at what seems like the end of the earth is the quality of life troops deserve and that AAFES will deliver,” said General Frost.

More than 240 AAFES employees — all volunteers — work in Iraq, and 163 more are in Kuwait.

“The associates who deploy to these contingency operations put their lives on hold,

items. “Whatever we could drag in, we did,” Mr. Sewell said. “The troops were elated. They hadn’t seen any of the items we brought, such as sports drinks, in a long time.”

Mr. Sewell described the conditions in Iraq as “austere and hostile.” There was limited in-



Helping our fellow deployed troops

- Anyone wishing to help deployed troops with store purchases may participate in the AAFES “Gifts from the Homefront” Program.
- The gift certificates, in \$10, \$20, \$25 or \$50 denominations, can be used for merchandise already stocked at AAFES locations in the theater of operations, Mr. Anstey said. The program is a safe alternative to traditional care packages that place unnecessary strain on the military postal system.
- Participants may designate a specific servicemember to receive the gift certificate, or the certificate will be distributed randomly through organizations such as the Red Cross, Air Force Aid Society or Fisher House

leave family, comfort and safety behind just to take care of troops,” said General Frost. “That’s a level of commitment that is hard to find, and they do it because they truly believe they are serving the best customers in the world.”

Craig Sewell, vice president for services at AAFES’ Dallas headquarters, spent nearly a year in the war-torn countries of Afghanistan and Iraq, helping to set up exchanges and food concessions. In April, while fighting was still going on in Baghdad, he flew into Tallil AB on a C-130 Hercules to determine the best place for the PX.

Those who went on the reconnaissance mission brought whatever AAFES merchandise they could carry in backpacks, he said. The group also brought footlockers full of sundry

frastructure, buildings were run down with broken windows and there was no running water, he said. Establishing exchange facilities presented many challenges. The infrastructure has improved since those first days, but running water still is a big challenge, said the 26-year AAFES veteran.

AAFES employees follow security guidelines and adhere to safety precautions such as traveling in convoys, said Mr. Sewell. They travel by military air and have helicopter support.

“We’re embedded with the military,” he said. “We’re in the same camps that have incoming mortars. We sleep, eat and bathe in the same facilities.”

Melanie White, a sales area manager from

the Tinker Air Force Base Exchange in Oklahoma, spent May through November at Bagram AB, Afghanistan.

“Living conditions were pretty basic,” she said. “We lived in tents, used porta-potties and most of the time had no air conditioning. We lived just like the soldiers.

There was dust and dirt everywhere. “You could never really stay clean,” she said.

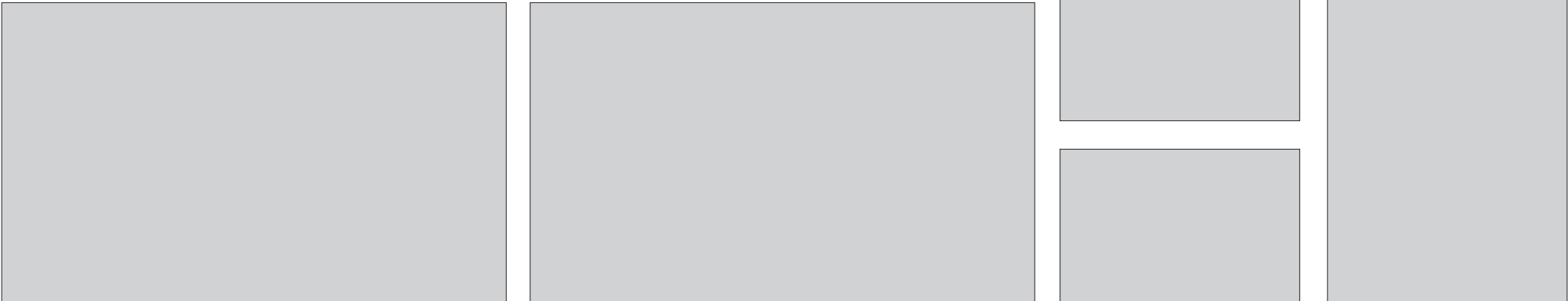
Besides dealing with the environment, the manager said there were many challenges in running the exchange. This included registers breaking down, a lack of computer and phone service, and communication difficulties with local hires. On top of that was the constant danger of rocket-propelled grenades. Ms. White said she heard sirens daily and took part in alert drills, donning a flak vest and Kevlar equipment inside the bunkers.

Even when the troops did not say anything, Ms. White said she knows they appreciated the presence of AAFES. “You could see it in their eyes, especially the soldiers who only got to come in once a month from the mountains where they were hunting the Taliban.”

There were others who voiced their thanks. “They just couldn’t believe we’d have their favorite brand of chip, tobacco or CD,” she said. And there were those who were “just glad to see a smiling face.”

Despite the hardships and danger, Mr. Sewell and Ms. White said they would go back.

“I never appreciated our troops as much as I do now,” said Ms. White, “After having seen with my own eyes their living conditions in these places and how much something as simple as a soda or chocolate – things we never truly appreciate until we have to go without – really means to them and helps them get through another day. We have wonderful soldiers and I thank God for them every day.”



Network-Centric ops: Future plans to make communication easier

PAUL STONE
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Within 10 years, U.S. forces around the world will enjoy greater combat effectiveness as a result of network-centric operations.

That is a vision John Stenbit has pursued for the past two years, and it is already bad news for America's enemies. Mr. Stenbit is the assistant secretary of defense for networks and information integration, and DOD's chief information officer.

The term "network-centric warfare" broadly describes the combination of tactics, techniques and procedures that a fully or even partially networked force can employ to create a decisive warfighting advantage.

NCW increases combat power by networking friendly forces to achieve shared situation awareness, increased speed of command, high tempo of operations, greater lethality, increased survivability and a degree of self-synchronization. Mr. Stenbit said to truly understand NCW, it is important to take a historical look at how forces have oper-

ated in the past.

"Up through the mid-1970s, the (primary means) of command and control and information exchange was the telephone. I knew your phone number, and when I wanted to call you, I did. In that kind of (system) you're stuck in place and you're stuck in time," he said. "Wherever you happened to be, if you moved, the phone number didn't go with you. If somebody called you and you weren't there, there wasn't even an answering machine.

"You have to think of it as a pretty static system," he said. "When somebody would find out something, they needed to be smart twice. They needed to be smart enough to know that it was important to tell somebody, and then they had to be smart enough to know who needed to know it, and that second part is really hard if it's outside your normal bureaucracy." Since that time, Mr. Stenbit said DOD now has moved into what he likes to refer to as "the direct broadcast TV paradigm," in which there are multiple channels of information received simultaneously among many places

around the world.

"Now, if somebody finds something out, he doesn't need to know who has the gun, all he needs to know is how to get the information he needs on the broadcast system. And if you're the guy with the gun, you don't need to know who's seeing things. All you need to do is listen," Mr. Stenbit said.

He refers to this type of operating mode as Smart Push — the ability to

then working the problem of what the data meant to what they were facing that day." In Iraq, Mr. Stenbit said the Smart Push concept was even more evident.

"For example, the ability of the Marines and the Army and the Air Force to all know something about the same target was no longer a question of whose sensor it was, because they all

what he calls Smart Pull — the ability to give warfighters the freedom not to be locked into either time or space, so they can obtain the information they need at the moment they need it, regardless of where they are.

And that is where the concept of NCW comes into play. Mr. Stenbit said it involves moving from the broadcast TV paradigm to the paradigm of the Internet.

"Today, if you want all the information you need, you have to carry around 10 satellite dishes and a thousand people to pull it all together," Mr. Stenbit said. "What we have to do is go to the paradigm of the Internet. If you do that, you erase both the barriers of time and space."

He said this would allow warfighters on the battlefield to have the information they need, when they need it, and give them the ability to tailor the information to their own needs, instead of relying on command and control staffs to feed them the information.

This, he said, is heart and soul of NCW. So how does the Defense Department get there?

Mr. Stenbit said DOD is moving forward to begin building just such an infrastructure. He said by the end of next year, DOD plans to build a base network connecting 100 locations throughout the world, involving mostly major headquarters, intelligence centers and some support organizations.

“The term ‘network-centric warfare’ broadly describes the combination of tactics, techniques and procedures that a fully or even partially networked force can employ to create a decisive warfighting advantage.”

PAUL STONE
Air Force Print News

gather data from a lot of sources, put it together and make decisions based on the data.

He said Smart Push was used very effectively in both Afghanistan and Iraq.

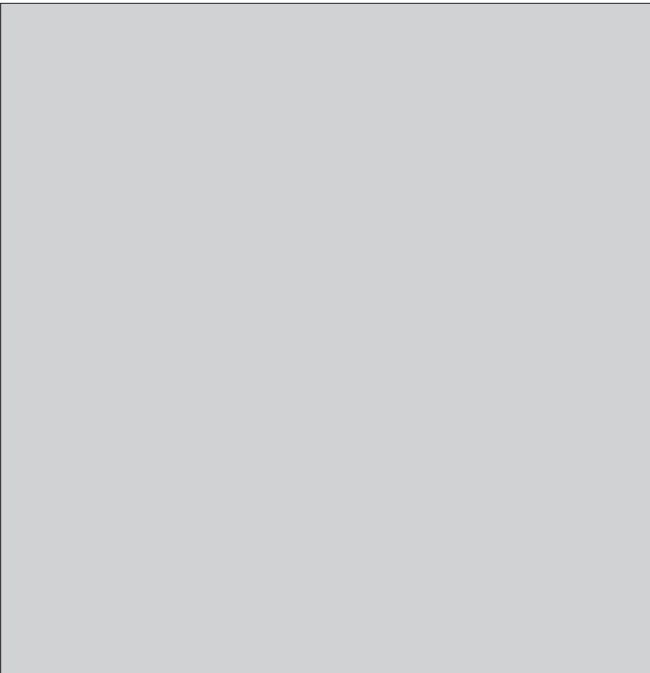
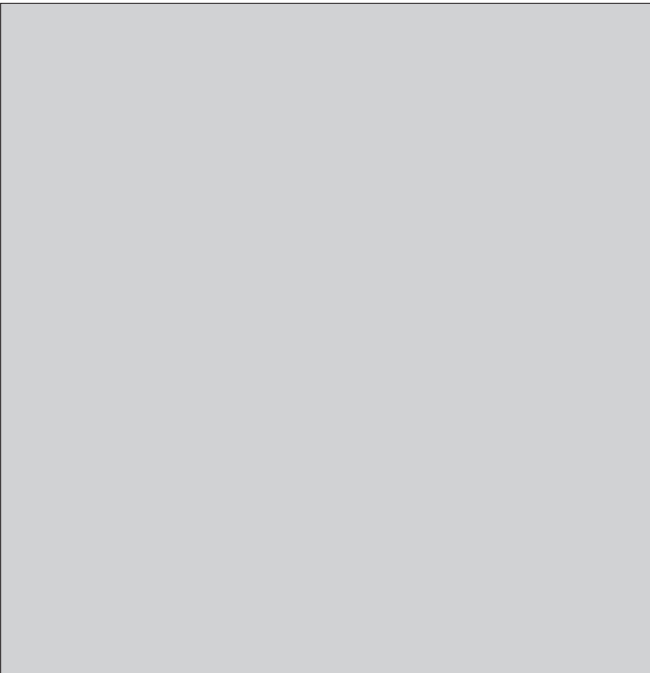
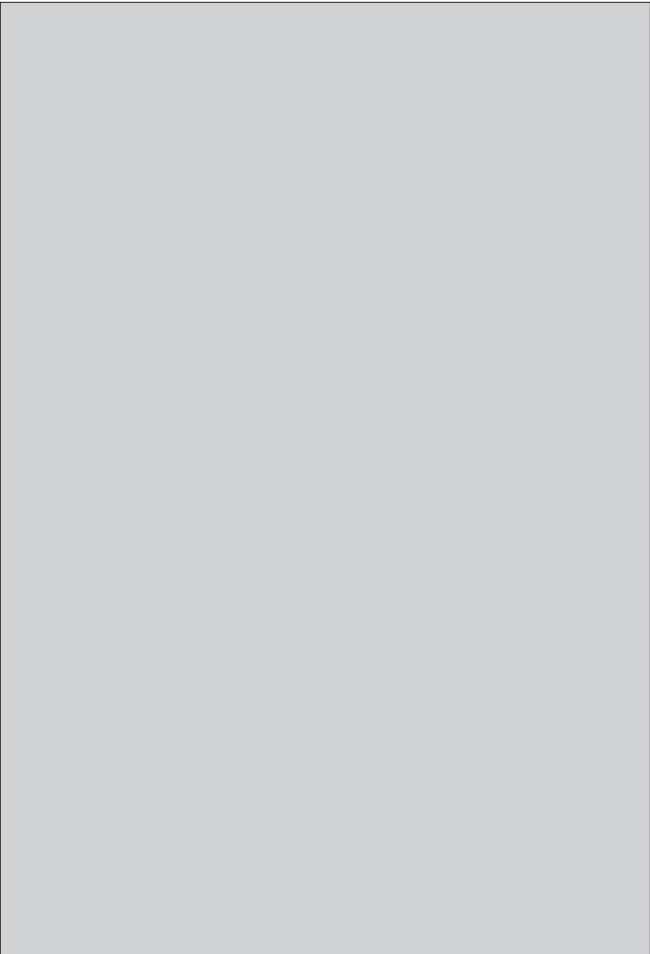
During a visit to Afghanistan, Mr. Stenbit said he got a first-hand look at Smart Push in action.

"At one base, there were about 1,000 people with a large area network, including about 10 satellite dishes all looking in different directions and taking data from those broadcasts, putting it together, and

had the same data," Mr. Stenbit said. "So the good news is we were free in space, and able, with the same information, to attack from the north, the south, the east and the west.

It was very dynamic, and the Iraqis suffered from that. We were coming at them from all directions, and that's not a good place to be. If you stood still you were dead, and if you moved you were dead."

Mr. Stenbit said the goal now is to get from Smart Push to





Steve Wallace

Alaskan Eagles fly south for winter

From left, Senior Airman Brian Friddle and Airman 1st Class Clifton Gill, maintainers from the 3rd Wing, Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, prepare one of their F-15 Eagles for a Combat Archer mission here Jan. 16.

Events

Naturalist Speaker
Capt. Richard Davis, Florida Historian, naturalist and Choctawhatchee River Guide will speak on the use of local plants for food or medicine 7 p.m. Feb. 17 at the Holy Nativity Episcopal Middle School cafeteria at 205 Hamilton Avenue. For more information, call Bridget Keegan at 283-4346.

Talent show
The Tyndall Black Heritage Committee is sponsoring an annual variety show Feb. 28 at the Enlisted Club. This is a great opportunity to showcase talents. Contact Staff Sgt. John Phinisey for more information, at 283-2663 or e-mail at john.phinisey@tyndall.af.mil, or Mrs. Crystal Lewis at crystal.lewis@tyndall.af.mil, call no later than Jan. 26.

Palace Chase Briefing
Every Wednesday at 2 p.m. there is a briefing for first-term airmen with half of their enlistment completed, officers with at least half their ADSC completed, or career airmen who are interested in separating early in exchange for an Air Force Reserve assignment. For more information, call Master Sgt. Brian Zinner at 283-8384.

Services

Tyndall Officers' Spouses' Club college scholarship
Tyndall Officers' Spouses' Club college scholarship

applications are now available for qualified college bound high school students and military spouses. Applications packets can be picked up at the Tyndall Education Office or in the high school guidance counselor's offices. Deadline for the application is noon Feb. 27. For more information, call 286-1212.

CE training make up
The Civil Engineer Annual Facility Managers' Training makeup date is Jan. 23 at the NCO Academy Auditorium, building 837, from 9-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. FOCUS coordinators, facility managers and their alternates are requested to attend this training. Please ensure that CE Customer Service personnel have an appointment letter on file stating that your commander has appointed you as a facility manager. If you have any questions please contact Civil Engineer Customer Services at 283-4948/4949.

Author seeks women's OIF accounts
The Air Force has approved support for the book "Women Write the War" to be written by Bee Pederson. The author's goal is recount and weave together true stories about the Iraqi war from a woman's perspective. Ms. Pederson is looking for responses from women serving on active-duty during the war as well as the mothers, wives, sisters, fiancés and significant others of those who served. Women who wish to share how wartime experiences have affected them may submit an essay of 3,000 words or less of happy, sad, funny or proud anecdotes, poems, short stories or letters. If interested, please call 2nd Lt. Amber Millerchip, Air Education and Training Command Public Affairs, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, at (210) 652-4400 for more details. Submissions are due Jan. 26.

Individual income tax guide available
Internal Revenue Service Publication 17, "Your Federal Income Tax," is available for reference and download on the IRS home page at www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p17.pdf This guide provides comprehensive treatment of the general rules applicable to the filing of federal individual income tax returns. The publication closely follows the Form 1040, detailing the issues and considerations raised by each section of the form.

Classifieds

VW Jetta
For Sale: 97 VW Jetta, 59k miles, new tires, \$5,000. For more information call Jeff at 874-9384.

Laptop computer
HP Pavillion laptop K6AMD, 500MHZ Processor, 64megs RAM, Windows 98 SE with battery, power adapters and leather carrying case. Asking \$300 OBO. For more information call Jim at 286-1413 or 774-9293 and leave a message.

Mazda 626
1999 626 Mazda, automatic, AM/FM/CD, beige, cruise, 70k, excellent condition, asking \$4,000. For more information call Regina Jackson at 747-9355.

PT Cruiser
2002 PT Cruiser, 5 speed, AM/FM/CD, black, cruise, only 19k miles, excellent condition; \$12,500 retail, asking \$10,000. Call 850-785-3449 ask for Philip Kissling

Astro Conversion Van
1996 Astro Conversion Van with raised roof. 7 PAX, TV/VCR, power everything, rear bench seat makes bed. Looks & runs great. Excellent family vehicle. Only 64K miles. \$7,200. 850-249-7249.

Household items
Coffee table for \$50; Dining room table with three chairs for \$60; Vinyl love seat and lounge chair for \$80; lawnmower for \$40. All prices are negotiable. For more information, call Steve at 286-4288 after 6 p.m.

Compaq Presario computer and desk, \$200; entertainment center with attached bookshelves, \$75; washer and dryer set, \$50; 8' X 10' aluminum shed, \$100; cartop carrier, \$20; mauve recliner, \$20; sofa, \$50; OBO on all. Call 286-8642.

Free Classifieds

The Gulf Defender will publish free classified ads here for the one-time sale of personal property excluding real estate for active-duty military, retirees and Department of Defense civilians working on Tyndall. Ads are run on a space-available basis and must be limited to 25 words or less. Duty numbers are not allowed. Submit ads to editor@tyndall.af.mil.

Jogging: Staying safe while staying fit

TECH. SGT. CHRISTOPHER HAISTEN
325th Fighter Wing ground safety office

As I drive down the road, passing an increasing number of joggers, I often wonder why people run. Do they simply love the activity, or are they getting a huge jump on those of us who haven't yet heeded the new Air Force fitness program that will go into effect soon?

The dramatic increase in the number of folks hitting the jogging paths and roads around Tyndall is evident, and several units have instituted weekly group runs in preparation for the new fitness requirement. Most joggers are hoping motorists don't treat them like speed bumps and likewise, motorists are hoping joggers won't behave like deer and dart in front of their vehicles. With most of the running taking place during peak traffic times, exercising operational risk management and common courtesy can reduce mishaps.

There are several guidelines joggers

should be familiar with that will ensure their safety.

First, before heading out for that run, make sure you stretch. By stretching, you can prevent ending up with a pulled or strained muscle that could otherwise leave you stranded in the middle of nowhere. Also, make sure you double-tie your shoe laces. You may not notice an untied shoe lace until it trips you, or you suddenly need to avoid an object and the sudden movement causes you to step on your untied shoe lace, making the situation even more dangerous.



When running:

- **Avoid using headphones unless on the designated track.**
- **Use bicycle paths parallel to the roads down Beacon Beach Road and Highway 98.**
- **Wear a reflective built during times of decreased visibility.**
- **Make eye contact with drivers and ensure they are slowing to a stop before entering intersection.**
- **And, of course, look both ways when you cross intersections.**

Additionally, when jogging on Beacon Beach Road or on U.S. Hwy. 98, you

should only use the bicycle paths parallel to the roads and you should run facing oncoming traffic as much as possible.

While jogging on Tyndall, you should avoid using a portable radio or music player. Not only are they prohibited by AFI32-204, Tyndall Air Force Base supplement 1, but running with

headphones degrade your ability to hear threats such as horns or verbal warnings. Also, with all of the traffic construction occurring, joggers need to re-

main cognoscente of their surroundings. Be sure to look both ways before crossing any intersection, and when jogging during periods of reduced visibility, be sure to wear a reflective belt or vest to assist motorists in seeing you.

Although pedestrians, including joggers, have the right-of-way at any crosswalk, never assume a vehicle will stop. While motorists are reminded to be vigilant for joggers entering crosswalks, joggers should always make eye contact with drivers and ensure they are slowing to a stop before entering the intersection. In the event of a situation involving an aggressive driver, joggers should attempt to remember the vehicle's license plate number and report the incident to base security forces personnel.

If joggers and motorists use good judgment, common courtesy and good operational risk management, there will be no reason for anyone to have to deal with a "killer workout."

Baseball clinic helps young players improve game

STEVE RIDDLE
325th Services Marketing publicist

For the third year running, Gulf Coast Community College baseball coach Darren Mazeroski will provide a free baseball clinic for all Tyndall ballplayers ages nine and up.

The clinic will be 1 – 3 p.m. Saturday at the Tyndall Youth Center baseball fields. Mazeroski said he would bring assistant coaches from his staff and a few players from the GCCC team to help in the instruction.

"We'll be showing them the basics of throwing, hitting and fielding," Mazeroski explained. "Some of the things we'll show them, they can learn to do on their own, like the hitting drills."

According to Bruce Mason, Tyndall Youth Center sports director, the children attending the clinic will get a lot more than just a chance to swing the bat a few times. The mental aspect of the game will be discussed too.

"Along with being taught the basics of baseball, the clinic teaches kids about the philosophy of baseball," Mason said. "They're taught that you have to stick to your training to build a better ballplayer."

Mason was quick to point out that although the clinic provides a wealth of knowledge children can use in the upcoming baseball season, the free cost should make it an event any ballplayer on base would want to attend.

To sign up, visit the Tyndall Youth Center or call 283-4366.

Tigers repeat as SEMAC/MLK champs

The Tyndall Tigers Men's Varsity basketball team took home the gold for the second consecutive year as they repeated as Champions of the Annual Southeastern Military Athletic Conference, SEMAC, Men's Martin Luther King Jr. Basketball Tournament. Thirteen teams competed in the double elimination tournament held at Eglin AFB, Fla. Saturday and Sunday.

Tyndall-83, Keesler-69

In their first game versus the Dragons, the Tigers started slowly as they trailed by 8 points at the half 36-28. In the second half, Tyndall turned up the pressure defensively to create easy scoring opportunities, as the Tigers outscored Keesler 55-33 in the second half to take the victory.

Tyndall-83, Hurlburt-69

In their second game of the tournament, the Tigers faced the Hurlburt Field Commandos. Elvin Walker and Omar Johnson, who scored 12 and 11 points respectively, led the Tigers to an 11-point half-time lead 43-32. In the second half, Tyndall maintained a comfortable advantage throughout behind Israel Figueroa's 15 second-half points to take the victory.

Tyndall-58, Eglin-56

The Tigers faced off against the tourney host—the Eglin Eagles (who owned a 3-0 record over the

Tigers this season). The two squads engaged in a classic defensive struggle. The halftime buzzer sounded with Tyndall holding a three-point lead—29-26. Tyndall's Marvin Gamble's basket tied the game at 56-56 with 22 seconds remaining. A game winning shot by Omar Johnson sealed the victory for the Tigers.

Tyndall-81, Barksdale-68

Tyndall defeated Barksdale in the Championship Game. The Bombers won five games to come out of the losers bracket, including an 82-70 victory over Eglin, to play for the championship.

Tyndall's Elvin Walker was voted Most Valuable Player of the tournament. He was joined on the All-Tournament squad by Omar Johnson (Tyndall,) Jack Smith (Maxwell), Cory Fletcher and Andrew David (Eglin), Keith Greene and Jerome Parkinson (Barksdale) and Israel Figueroa (Tyndall).

The Tigers added the M.L. King Jr. Championship trophy to a full trophy case. Tyndall won the pre-season tournament championship trophy and earned 2nd place, at the Thanksgiving Tourney trophy.

The Tigers will host the Keesler Dragons this weekend as they return to SEMAC action. Game times are: Saturday: 2 p.m. and Sunday: noon.

(Courtesy of Tyndall Tigers)



Funshine NEWS



January 23, 2004

All Ranks Lunch

at the Officers' Club

Mon.-Thurs.: \$6.95 ■ Friday: \$7.95
11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Unlimited access to the daily buffet, salad bar,
fountain soda, tea & coffee!

Includes Fresh, Hot, Carved Meat
Sandwiches on Kaiser Roll

Monday	Chef's Choice
Tuesday	Italian
Wednesday	Oriental
Thursday	All American
Friday	Seafood

*Members, show your club card to receive a \$1 discount!

On Base Food Delivery

■ **Lunch Menu:** Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Limited to office deliveries (i.e. squadron addresses)

■ **Evening Menu:** Fri. & Sat. 5:30-9 p.m.

Subs & Pizzas
286-2900

Crazy Cash Give-away at the O' Club Every Friday during Social Hour.

Jackpot starts at \$100. The first member name
drawn is for the jackpot. If there is no winner

\$25 will be added to next week's
jackpot (max. \$500).

Once the name is drawn the winner
has 5 minutes to claim their prize.

If the winner fails to claim their prize
a second drawing will be held from
bar receipts for \$25.

283-4357 for details

All Ranks Super Sunday Brunch!

at the Officers' Club
Jan. 25, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

\$8.95* Champagne Available - add \$3

*Members, show your club card to receive a \$1 discount!

Menu Includes:

Biscuits & Gravy	Bacon
Carving Station	Hash Browns
Omelets (made to order)	Fresh Fruit
Belgian Waffles	Muffins
Sausage	Danish

283-4357

Golf Course Pro Shop

Can't decide what to get that special
golfer? Remember the golf course pro
shop offers gift certificates.

283-4389



Family Child Care

☎ 283-2266

License Requirement

The Air Force requires persons who care
for children to be licensed to provide care.
Call for details.

PCS Child Care

AF Aid for PCS is available in Family Child
Care Homes. This program provides twenty
hours of free child care within the first/last
sixty days of PCS.

Red Cross Babysitting Course

A babysitting course for youth ages 11 to
18 will be held on the Saturdays, February 7
and 14 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Youth will also
receive infant and child CPR training. Cost is
\$40 per person. Sign up at the Youth
Center.

Wanted: FCC providers to provide care
for children under the age of two. call about
our Jan. class.

FCC Providers: An updated list of
providers is available, call 283-2266 or e-
mail (325svyd@tyndall.af.mil) The FCC
Office is open Mon - Fri from 12:30 - 1:30
p.m. or by appointment.

Marina Club

☎ 283-3059

Best Salad Bar on Base

Tuesday-Thursday: 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Only
\$4.75. Includes Soup.

Free French Fries

Buy a sandwich entree valued over \$3.50
and receive free fries.

Marina Club Annual Fishing Tournament

Jan. 1, 2004-Dec. 31, 2004. Entry fee is
\$30. Cash prizes will be awarded.

Enjoy...

Cosmic Bowling

Every Friday: 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m.

Every Saturday: 10:30 p.m.-1 a.m.

283-2380

Youth Center

☎ 283-4366

2004 Baseball/Softball Registration

Open to all youth ages 5-14 yrs. runs until
Feb. 14. Birth certificate will be needed at
the time of registration.

Special Free Baseball Clinic

Open to all youth ages 10 years old and
older. Saturday Jan. 24 from 1-3 p.m. on
the Youth Center ball fields. Baseball coach
Darren Mazeroski and his staff from GCCC
will give a one-day baseball clinic.

Upcoming Teen Programs

Jan. 27: YES Club will meet from 7-8 p.m.

Community Activity Ctr.

☎ 283-2495

2004 AF Worldwide Talent Contest

Tops In Blue is looking for vocalists,
dancers, instrumentalists and technicians.
Deadline to apply is Feb. 3, 2004. If you are
interested, please contact Rudy at 283-
2495 for more information.

CAC Family Day

Jan. 31, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Billiards, ping-pong and board games
tournaments with awards for 1st and 2nd
place. Free snacks.

Muay Bplam Jiu-Jitsu Club

Are you board with traditional martial arts?
Come be a part of the next generation in
fighting systems.

You're Invited to the Taster's Choice SIK Forum

February 5, 2004
Berg-Liles Dining Facility
12:30-1:30 p.m.
P.O.C. SrA Griggs or
A1C Goodrich: 283-2239/4992



Start Flying Now!

For many, flying is just a dream fulfilled by a
piece of folded paper. With the help of your
Aero Club's Flight Training Center (FTC), you
can move beyond paper dreams. You may even
qualify to use VA education benefits to minimize
the cost for advanced ratings. If you are active
duty or retired military, a DoD civilian
employee, or a family member of someone who
qualifies, then you can join over one million
men and women who made their dream of flight
a reality.

Introductory Ride \$49
283-4404

February 20 at the O' Club: Mardi Gras!

For Officers and
Civilian equivalent
Watch for more information.



Library

☎ 283-4287

Book Sale

Jan: 29 From 9 a.m.- 8 p.m.

Jan: 30 - 31 From 9 a.m.- 6 p.m in Building
916. Prices on the items are posted in the
book sale room. All proceeds are used to
buy new library materials.

Paintball Tyndall Paintball Field

(Just inside the Saber Gate)

Entrance marked by
sign on side of road.

Every Saturday at 10 a.m.
Bring family, friends and
co-workers!

Must have own equipment.
Cost is free.

Injured Iraqi’s US treatment wows deployed NCO

STAFF SGT. EDWARD GYOKERES
332nd Air Expeditionary Wing

(Editors note: The following is the third in a series of dispatches from a deployed member of the 325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.)

A 35-year-old Pakistani truck driver’s life took a turn toward the weird 24 hours ago.

I met the man after being assigned as his escort. Strapped to a backboard, he was being offloaded from a medevac Blackhawk onto a battlefield litter on a cold, wet Wednesday morning. He was suspected of having broken his back, both arms, and a leg when his truck was rear-ended. He wasn’t wearing a seatbelt, and his truck went into a muddy ditch.

When I met him, he was scared, cold and in great pain, but he was praying calmly. Two doctors attended to him immediately at the scene of the accident. He was transported by the world’s best

battlefield trauma system, and he arrived to a first-rate medical facility where he would be treated by no less than 18 experts in their respective fields. Everything was done to ensure his comfort. For example, the heat was cranked up

“Before I tell you how the patient is today, I want you to know that the scene was moving. This is where your money is going, and it is very well spent on things like this.”

STAFF SGT. EDWARD GYOKERES
332nd Air Expeditionary Wing

so he would not be cold when his clothes came off, and a linguist was on scene to ensure he was able to communicate (it turns out that he spoke enough English). Every possible resource was made available to treat this random stranger who was having a bad day.

Before I tell you how our patient is today, I want you to know that the scene

was moving. This is where your money is going, and it is very well spent on things like this. Any trauma victim within a 50-mile radius comes to this unit, called an Emergency Medical Expeditionary Squadron. It has every specialty from orthopedic surgeons to orthodontists. If a child steps on a mine or pulls a hot pot onto his head, he or she comes here. You got shot ... where? You come here. It’s quite a facility, and it’s in a set of tents called the “rat maze.”

Thirty minutes after the man arrived, and after he had been given a workup for spinal injuries, internal injuries, and neurological problems, an orthopedic surgeon saw the man’s x-rays and determined that he had no broken bones. He was in agony, but he would feel fine in a few days.

After a shot of Fentanyl he was “a little dizzy” and no longer complaining of pain. They treated his wounds from the impacts he received while bouncing around like a superball inside his truck. He might not have had anything broken, but he still looked bad enough to bring a trauma system up to full speed. He was medically released after the doctors removed his tubes.

I spent the rest of the day with him after everyone else moved on to other things. I got him some food, and we watched a hockey game in the patient lounge. I taught him all about the finer points of the game. “Yes, that was to-

tally high-sticking, but did you see him get checked right there? Yeah, he won’t do that again.”

His vehicle was wrecked 50 miles away, and he works for a company that we can’t get in touch with. I had an ambulance take us back to the control center at the end of the day. His treatment at our visitor center was better than I could have ever imagined. They got him a cot, some food and water, and I asked the night shift people to take care of him.

I ran into my day shift supervisor today. He was leaving EMEDS after arranging a ride for the man to another Army post, where he can get into a convoy back to Kuwait. I can confidently tell you that my co-workers cared for him as much as I did. In the words of the guy running down the solution today, “no dude, I care.” That’s quite a statement, and it’s a lot more than we can usually do for the hundreds of drivers who come through here wanting special favors.

The man’s situation is far from normal, and we don’t want him to just get tossed into the wild. He was in a lot of pain all day yesterday and he couldn’t use his hands, yet he never asked for help. He never complained, and when he couldn’t sit up in his bed for his prayers, he just began reciting them on his back as he struggled to gesture with his arms. That was moving.

At the end of the day he asked me what my name was. When I told him it was Parker, he laughed loudly and said, “It is nice to meet you.” We had been together for 11 hours. He never needed to know my name because I didn’t leave his side, and because he never asked for anything.

The man’s name is Mohammed; he is 35 years old and he loves Americans.

God I love this job.

